

The Divine Reality

God, Islam & The Mirage of Atheism

By Hamza Andreas Tzortzis

FB PUBLISHING
SAN CLEMENTE

Copyright © 2016 Hamza Andreas Tzortzis

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any electronic or mechanical means including photocopying, recording and information storage and retrieval systems—except in the case of brief quotations embedded in critical articles or reviews—without the permission in writing from its publisher, FB Publishing.

Published by:

FB Publishing

645 Camino De Los Mares

Suite 108-276

San Clemente CA 92673

Visit our website at www.FBPublishinghouse.com

Book Design: Ramit Kumar

ISBN: 978-0-9965453-8-9

First Edition

Printed in the United States of America

In the name of God, the merciful, the giver of mercy.

*All praise and gratitude is due to God, the Lord of everything that exists.
May God's peace and blessings be upon His final Prophet and Messenger,
Muhammad ﷺ.*

For my family.

Their love, patience, and enduring compassion deserve eternal gratitude.

Preliminary notes

In the Islamic tradition when the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is mentioned by name or title the honorific phrase ‘ﷺ’ is used. It is a sign of love and respect. The phrase denotes ‘May God’s peace and blessings be upon him’. This phrase has been used throughout this book.

The word God has been used throughout this book. However, in the Islamic tradition the name of God is Allah. Arabic linguists suggest that the name Allah comes from the word *Al-Ilah*, which means The-Deity. The name Allah has no plural and is genderless.

Acknowledgements

Undoubtedly this book would not have been possible without God. I praise and thank Him. Once you finish reading this book you will realise that everything depends on God and He alone is worthy of perfect praise and gratitude.

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ taught that the person who has not thanked God has “not thanked people.”¹ In this light, there are a number of people to whom I owe thanks for helping and encouraging me to write this book.

First among them are my family. I cannot ever forget the love, patience, support, encouragement and sacrifices of my wife and children. My neglect and isolation was endured and overlooked by the people I love. The fact that God gave me such a family is something that deserves eternal gratitude.

I would like to show my appreciation to my brother Spyros Tzortzis. He was an early intellectual inspiration in my life. We shared the same bedroom for over two decades. His ability to think outside of the box and explore new ideas planted intellectual ‘seeds’ in my mind, the fruit of which is this book. I would like to thank my sister Haris Tzortzis. She has always supported me and never defined me by my faults, always by my strengths. My mother Androula Tzortzis is one of the most loving people that I know. Her undying love, energy and support have shaped who I am. My father Petros Tzortzis has always been my hero. His patience, tolerance, love, humility and wisdom have inspired me. I can never repay my parents. Anything I say cannot truly express the gratitude that is due to them. I pray that God guides and protects my family, and that He grants them long, healthy lives full of joy, love and piety. I pray that He continues to unite us in love.

I want to thank my friend Imran Hussein. Imran reviewed the book and provided significant input. His contribution to Chapter 3 was extensive. I am also extremely grateful to my friend Subboor Ahmad, who provided important contributions and moral support.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to Abu Hurayra. He is one of the smartest people I have had contact with. Although we have never met, due to our similar interests we have exchanged ideas. He reviewed the book at its early stage and his input was beyond significant. Without his incisive criticism and contribution this book would not have been possible.

I would like to thank the author and academic Safaruk Chowdhury. Our friendship has inspired me to pursue further studies in Islamic thought and philosophy. His review of the book and scholarly contribution was extremely helpful.

I would like to thank Asif Uddin, who spent hours researching various Islamic classical texts. His input and corrections helped shaped the character of the book.

I am ever grateful to my friend Adnan Rashid. His review of the book and his contribution to Chapter 14 was extensive.

I would also like to express my gratitude to Dr. Atif Imtiaz and Sharif Randhawa for their important suggestions and advice.

I would like to thank Umm-Talha bint Abi-Bilal who did a last minute review of the entire manuscript.

I am grateful to Ghazi Mannai, Fahad Tasleem, Dr. Mohamed Ghilan, Anthony Green, Salahuddin Patel, Joni Molla, Esa Khan, Abdullah Mekki, Moseen Khalid, Zeenat Bibi, Abu Zakariya and Umm Zakariya for their noteworthy support and contributions.

Finally, I would like to thank John Paine for his editorial work and FB Publishing for their support and making this book become a reality.

There are many more people whom I should show my appreciation and gratitude to. However, anyone that has been left out, know that your reward is with God, and what is from Him cannot be compared to anything in this world.

Contents

<i>Preface—My Journey</i>	11
<i>Chapter 1—Atheism: Its Definition, History & Growth</i>	18
<i>Chapter 2—Life Without God: The Implications of Atheism</i>	32
<i>Chapter 3—Adversaries of Reason: Why Atheism is Irrational</i>	46
<i>Chapter 4—Self-Evident: Why Atheism is Unnatural</i>	64
<i>Chapter 5—A Universe from Nothing? The Qur'an's Argument for God</i> ...	76
<i>Chapter 6—The Divine Link: The Argument from Dependency</i>	95
<i>Chapter 7—Denying God, Denying You: The Argument from Consciousness</i>	108
<i>Chapter 8—Divine Precision: The Designed Universe</i>	132
<i>Chapter 9—Know God, Know Good: God & Objective Morality</i>	152
<i>Chapter 10—Divine Singularity: The Oneness of God</i>	161
<i>Chapter 11—Is God Merciful? Islam's Response to the Problem of Evil & Suffering</i>	171
<i>Chapter 12—Has Science Disproved God? Deconstructing False Atheist Assumptions</i>	185
<i>Chapter 13—God's Testimony: The Divine Authorship of the Qur'an</i>	207
<i>Chapter 14—The Prophetic Truth: The Messenger of God</i>	240
<i>Chapter 15—The Free Slave: Why God is Worthy of Our Worship</i>	268
<i>Chapter 16—Conclusion: Transforming Our Hearts</i>	288
<i>Afterword—Don't Hate, Debate: Dialogue with Islam</i>	290

